

#E1-2564  
RG



500 Water Street - J200  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
(904) 359-1086  
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Dave Geraci  
Manager - Network Rationalization

October 23, 2006

Honorable Vernon Williams, Secretary  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 "K" Street NW - Suite 534  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Ms. Vicki Rutson, Chief  
Surface Transportation Board  
Section of Environmental Analysis  
1925 "K" Street NW - Suite 534  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

RE: CSXT Abandonment  
Augusta, Richmond County, GA  
STB Docket AB-55 (Sub-No. 614X)

Dear Secretary Williams and Ms. Rutson:

This refers to CSX Transportation's Notice of Exemption filed on May 17, 2002 requesting authority to abandon its rail line described above. Enclosed please find a copy of a letter dated September 9, 2002 from Richard Cloues, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources - Historic Preservation Division, stating "...HPD believes that the proposed undertaking will have no adverse effects to historic properties..." The letter further states "This letter evidences CSX's compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Therefore, no further steps are required regarding this undertaking."

Sincerely,

**Attachment**

Copy: Mr. Steven Armbrust, 500 Water Street-J150, Jacksonville, FL, 32202  
Ms. Rini Ghosh, STB - SEA, Via Fax (202) 565-9000  
Ms. Ann Newman, STB, Via Fax (202) 565-9004

## Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Lonice C. Barrett, Commissioner

### Historic Preservation Division

W. Ray Luce, Division Director and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
156 Trinity Avenue, S.W., Suite 101, Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3600  
Telephone (404) 656-2840 Fax (404) 657-1040 <http://www.gashpo.org>

September 9, 2002

Ms. Stephanie M. Lemmon  
Project Manager  
CSX Transportation  
500 Water Street – J200  
Jacksonville, Florida 32202

RE: **CSX: Abandon 1.6 Miles of Railroad, Augusta**  
**Docket No. AB-55 (Sub. No. 614X)**  
**Richmond County, Georgia**  
**GA-020515-005**

Dear Ms. Lemmon:

The Historic Preservation Division (HPD) has received the additional information regarding the above-referenced project for the abandonment of 1.6 miles of railroad spur in downtown Augusta. Our comments are offered to assist federal agencies and their applicants in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Based on the information provided, HPD believes that no archaeological resources that are listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by this undertaking. However, part of the railroad spur is adjacent to the boundary of the Pinched Gut Historic District (National Register-listed), and it also traverses another area of downtown Augusta that appears to be eligible for listing on the National Register. Based on the photographs and documentation of the current condition of this segment of railroad spur, HPD believes that the proposed undertaking will have **no adverse effects** to historic properties, as defined in 36 CFR Part 800.

This letter evidences CSX's compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Therefore, no further steps are required regarding this undertaking. It is important to remember that any future changes to this project as it is currently proposed may require additional steps for Section 106 compliance. HPD encourages federal agencies and project applicants to discuss such changes with our office to ensure that potential effects to historic resources are adequately considered in project planning.

HPD would also like to encourage CSX to work with local officials, planners, and historic preservation organizations regarding the future transfer of the railroad right-of-way. Many successful "rails to trails" projects have proved to be an enhancement and a catalyst for the rehabilitation and revitalization of surrounding historic areas.

Stephanie M. Lemmon  
September 9, 2002  
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Please refer to project number HP-020515-005 in any future correspondence regarding this undertaking. If we may be of further assistance, please contact Serena G. Bellew, Environmental Review Coordinator at (404) 651-6624 or Denise Messick, Environmental Review Historian at (404) 651-6777.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Cloues". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Richard" and last name "Cloues" clearly distinguishable.

Richard Cloues  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

RC:dpm

cc: Barbara Jackson, Georgia State Clearinghouse  
Dana G. White, SEA, Surface Transportation Board, 1925 "K" St. NW, Room 527, Washington DC 20423  
Ann S. Floyd, Central Savannah River Area RDC  
Paul DeCamp, Augusta-Richmond County HPC  
Erick Montgomery, Historic Augusta Foundation